

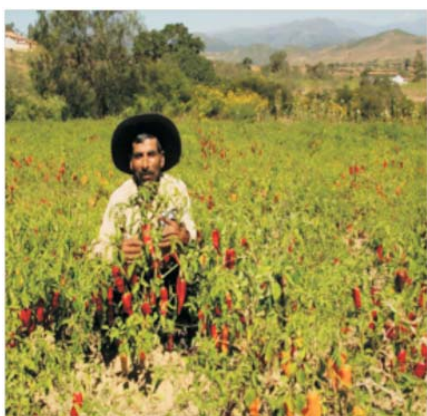


# USAID | BOLIVIA

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

## USAID SUPPORT: COCHABAMBA

Through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Government has a comprehensive assistance program that supports the Bolivian Government's National Development Plan.



*USAID programs in Cochabamba give assistance to farmers, grower associations, businesses, municipalities, and rural communities.*

*USAID/Bolivia:  
working together*

Through its official foreign assistance agency, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Government supports development in several municipalities in the department of Cochabamba. Projects seek to reduce poverty through economic growth generated by enterprise development and increased productivity; improve access to health care for the poor; and promote environmental protection and conservation. USAID programs create opportunities for marginalized populations, promoting their social and economic inclusion.

### ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR FARM FAMILIES AND SMALL BUSINESSES

USAID programs directly support the productive pillar of Bolivia's National Development Plan. Through the Agency's assistance, more than 12,000 producers in the valleys of Cochabamba are now selling a variety of products for domestic and international markets, including the United States. Those include onions, peanuts, hot peppers, spices, tomatoes, peaches, and dairy products.

USAID has also strengthened financial institutions and credit unions providing innovative services for the population. Financial branches in the rural municipalities of Punata, Cliza, Vinto and Tarata have received USAID's support to improve their electronic transaction mechanisms. All of these activities increased financial services to underserved populations in both urban and rural communities.

USAID also supports Cochabamba's textile, apparel and timber industries, with technical assistance helping to improve business practices and product quality for increased domestic and international sales.

### IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF BOLIVIANS

USAID seeks to improve the health of underserved Bolivians by increasing access to quality health services through the strengthening of public and NGO health facilities and networks. The program supports the Ministry of Health's policy of extending services to rural areas, with a special focus on family and community health.

In coordination with local governments and communities, USAID has supported programs in Cochabamba concerning hygiene and nutrition education for children through school-based interventions, including the distribution of micronutrient supplements and de-worming pills in classrooms, as well as programs aimed at increasing access to quality reproductive health services for adolescents.

USAID also provides sub-grants to local NGOs for projects that support training, equipment and education activities in the areas of maternal and child health, nutrition, and reproductive health.

The program supports HIV education, voluntary counseling and testing activities through the private sector; while also supporting training, equipment and human resources for the national HIV/AIDS program in Cochabamba. The program also strengthens the capacity of municipal and local health authorities in health system management and planning through technical assistance and training.

USAID also supports PROSALUD, Bolivia's largest provider of private health services, and CIES, an organization that specializes in reproductive health.

### **COMMUNITY FUND**

Through a Community Development Activity Fund, USAID supports rural communities with immediate people-level impact small development activities.

This initiative implements small self-help projects responding to the needs of low-income communities in urban and rural areas. The projects have a people-to-people approach and include substantial input from local communities. In Cochabamba, USAID has supported the strengthening of a Children's Shelter operated by the local NGO Fundación Estrellas en la Calle.

### **INTEGRATED FOOD SECURITY**

Food security exists when people have both physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs for a productive and healthy life. In support to Bolivia's National Development Plan, in the department of Cochabamba, USAID seeks to increase food security and decrease chronic malnutrition in rural areas through an integrated approach that addresses food availability, access, use and vulnerability. The program has also a strong focus in reducing the maternal-child malnutrition, addressing the lack of rural infrastructure, reducing threats to biodiversity, empowering populations that are vulnerable to climate change and promoting a more productive quinoa value chain.